

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed February 17, 2006. Applicant hereby elects the invention covered by the invention which the Examiner has set forth in Group I, with traverse, namely, a valve opening and closing apparatus (i.e. valve controller). After entering the present amendment and before examination on the merits, claims 1-24 read on this invention. Since all pending claims presently depend from independent claim 24 for the valve controller, all pending claims are drawn to this single invention and should be examined on the merits. Although there are dependent claims drawn to various types of valves (see for example claims 12 and 18), all pending claims are drawn to the same invention for a valve controller.

The Examiner has also rejected the drawings. Please replace the current drawings on file with the enclosed, formal substitute drawings.

The examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

In re: Lawrence M. Dulac  
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Respectfully submitted,

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